Dispensary for Pazhayangadi.

* 1398 *Q.*—SRI K. UPPI (on behalf of Sri M. Chadayan) : Will the Hon. the Minister for Health be pleased to state whether the Government have received the recommendations of the Malabar District Board to open a new dispensary at Pazhayangadi in North Malabar and if so, the action taken thereon?

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" No recommendation of the Malabar Board in the matter has been received by Government."

Eucalyptus plantations.

* 1399 *Q.*—SRI A. RATNAM : Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government have considered the possibility of increasing the eucalyptus plantations on the Nilgiris to get rayon grade pulp in consultation with the Union Government; and

(*b*) if so, whether proposals will be submitted to the Union Government for planting new eucalyptus trees before putting up a pilot rayon plant at Ootacamund?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" (*a*) No, Sir.

" (*b*) Does not arise."

Revision of the rates of dearness allowance to N.G.Os.

* 1400 *Q.*—SRI V. BALAKRISHNAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state whether the Government have ascertained what the financial commitments to the State would be by raising the State dearness allowance rates of State Employees drawing Rs. 300 and below to the Government of India's rates of dearness allowance to similarly paid class of Government of India employees?

THE HON SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" Yes. The extra cost will be about Rs. 312 lakhs."

SRI V. BALAKRISHNAN :—" Sir, will the Government be pleased to take some steps to tackle this heart-burning problem of the N.G.Os.? "

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" Sir, now the cost of living is going down slowly. I do not think this is the time to reconsider the question of increasing the dearness allowance."

SRI M. KALYANASUNDARAM :—" Sir, even if the Government do not propose to increase the rates of dearness allowance in the case of the N.G.Os., may I know whether they will consider the proposal of merging a portion of the dearness allowance with pay for the purpose of conferring retirement benefits, as has been done in the case of the employees of the Central Government? "

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The Hon. Sri C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" I do not think, Sir, it will be possible for this Government to accept that proposal."

Sri S. C. C. ANTHONY PILLAI :—" Sir, the Uttar Pradesh Government have merged half of the dearness allowance with basic pay. May I know what specific reason there is for this Government to refuse even to consider this suggestion? "

The Hon. Sri C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" Sir, this is not Uttar Pradesh Government. This is Madras Government." (Laughter.)

Sri K. VINAYAKAM :—" Sir, the Hon. the Minister makes it appear that it is not necessary to increase the dearness allowance of the State Government servants on the ground that the cost of living is going down slowly. Even if the case of the N.G.Os. could not be considered, will the Government be pleased to consider the case of at least the lower Grade Government servants in the matter of merging a portion of the dearness allowance with basic pay?

The Hon. Sri C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" Sir, as was pointed out by the hon Member Sri M. Kalyanasundaram, the merger of dearness allowonce with basic pay will only confer some retiring benefits and therefore there is no question of any immediate benefit to the person concerned. After a full consideration of the matter, the Government feel that it is not necessary to increase the retirement benefits at this stage."

Sri A. GOVINDASWAMY NAYAGAR :—" என்.ஜி:ஓ. க்கள் ஒரு தூது கோஷ்டி வந்தார்களே, அவர்களுக்கு சர்க்கார் என்ன பதில் சொல்லி யிருக்கிறார்களா ?"

The Hon. Sri C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" பல தூது கோஷ்டிகள் வந்திருக்கின்றன. எந்த தூது கோஷ்டியைப் பற்றி கனம அங்கத்தினர் கேட்கிறார் என்பது தெரியவில்லை."

Assistant Secretary to the Legislature Secretariat.

* 1495 Q.—Sri M. KALYANASUNDARAM :—" Sir, before the Hon. Minister answers this question, I want to raise a point of order seeking clarification on certain points. This question is to be answered by the Hon. the Minister for Finance and Education. He makes the Demand for the Legislature and has financial control over it and perhaps he may be answering it. I am not objecting to that, but I want to know the constitutional position."

The Hon. Sri C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" I am in charge of the Legislature."

Sri M. KALYANASUNDARAM :—" Sir, I am of the opinion that the staff employed in the office of the Legislature Secretariat are placed on a different footing from those working in other Departments of the Secretariat. That is why there is a special provision in the Constitution. Article 187 (1), (2) and (3) provides for the method of recruitment and service conditions of the staff employed in the Legislature Secretariat. The Legislature is empowered to